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**DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare:

That my residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name:

That I verily believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural inventors are named below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled

**METHOD FOR OPTIMIZING A SOLUTION SET**

(check one)

☐ is attached hereto.

☒ was filed on January 18, 2002 as  
Application Serial No. 10/051,317  
and was amended on \_\_\_\_\_  
(if applicable)

That I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

That I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a).

That I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119 and §120 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate on this invention having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

**Prior Foreign Application(s)****Priority Claimed**

_____ (Number)	_____ (Country)	_____ (Day/Month/Year)	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes No
_____ (Number)	_____ (Country)	_____ (Day/Month/Year)	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes No
_____ (Number)	_____ (Country)	_____ (Day/Month/Year)	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes No

That I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

**United States Application(s)**

<u>60/262,756</u> (Appl. Ser.No.)	<u>January 18, 2001</u> (Filing Date)	<u>Pending</u> (Status) (patented, pending, abandoned)
_____ (Appl. Ser.No.)	_____ (Filing Date)	_____ (Status) (patented, pending, abandoned)
_____ (Appl. Ser.No.)	_____ (Filing Date)	_____ (Status) (patented, pending, abandoned)

information and belief are believed true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

I hereby appoint the following attorneys, with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith, and request that all correspondence and telephone calls in respect to this application be directed to GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD., Suite 2500, 300 South Wacker Drive, Chicago, Illinois 60606, Telephone No. (312) 360-0080:

<u>Attorney</u>	<u>Reg. No.</u>	<u>Attorney</u>	<u>Reg. No.</u>
Roger D. Greer	26,174	B. Joe Kim	41,895
Patrick G. Burns	29,367	Carole A. Mickelson	30,778
Lawrence J. Crain	31,497	Brittany C. MacDonald	44,159
Steven P. Fallon	35,132	Arik B. Ranson	43,874
Paul G. Juettner	30,270	Thomas R. Fitzsimons	40,607
Thomas R. Juettner	16,158	Josh Snider	47,954
James K. Folker	37,538	Grace Law	48,872

Full name of sole or one joint inventor:

Martin Pelikan

Inventor's signature:

Martin Pelikan

Date:

02-20-02

Residence and Post Office Address:

601 E. White Street, Apt. A12

Champaign, Illinois 61820

Citizenship:

Slovakia

Full name of additional joint inventor, if any:

David E. Goldberg

Inventor's signature:

David E. Goldberg

Date:

2-20-02

Residence and Post Office Address:

511 S. Ridgeway Avenue

Champaign, Illinois 61821

Citizenship:

United States

Address for Correspondence :

GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD.  
Suite 2500  
300 South Wacker Drive  
Chicago, Illinois 60606